

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 DPW-01 L-03 H-02 SS-15

NSC-05 /055 W

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R 210110Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

SECSTATE WASHDC 0830

C O N F I D E N T I A L SURABAYA 0236

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ID

SUBJECT: CLASS "B" PRISONER RELEASE IN EAST JAVA

1. PRESS REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT EAST JAVA KOPKAMTIBDA HAS BEEN RELEASING CLASS "B" PKI PRISONERS IN SELECTIVE, PHASED MANNER SINCE MARCH OF THIS YEAR. RELEASES WERE BASED ON ASSESSMENT THAT THOSE BEING FREED HAD EVINCED SUITABLE LOYALTY TO PANCASILA, THE 1945 CONSTITUTION, ETC. RELEASE WAS SAID TO BE "PART OF FINAL SOLUTION OF GESTAPU PROBLEM, BASED ON DECISION TAKEN BY NEW ORDER GOVERNMENT." NUMBERS WERE NOT ANNOUNCED.

2. COMMENT: BACK IN EARLY MARCH, KOPKAMTIB LAKSUSDA MAJOR GENERAL WITARMIN TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY JAKARTA TO RELEASE 68 CLASS "B" PRISONERS IN PUBLIC CEREMONY AT DATE THEN UNSPECIFIED. WITARMIN OBJECTED IN CABLE TO JAKARTA, PREDICTING ALL SORTS OF CALAMITIES, BUT WAS ORDERED TO PROCEED BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE INDONESIA'S IMAGE IN CONJUNCTION WITH 1977 ELECTIONS (IN THIS CONNECTION, EAST JAVA ELECTION COMMISSION RECENTLY ISSUED REGULATIONS ON VOTING RIGHTS OF FORMER CLASS "C" DETAINEES, WHO SURPRISINGLY ARE EXPECTED TO BE STRONG GOLKAR SUPPORTERS). WITARMIN ALSO SAID THAT CLASS "B" PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED WERE BEING RETURNED FROM BURU ISLAUD, AND THAT "WE ARE WATCHING THEM ALL AND IF ANY CAUSE TROUBLE THEY WILL BE SHOT."

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 APR 1976
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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